

## **Background**

- This list contains changes in the list for 6 Regional Boards (San Francisco, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Central Valley, Santa Ana and San Diego Regional Boards).
- EPA approved the previous impaired waters list for the other 3 Regional Boards (North Coast, Lahontan and Colorado River Regional Boards) in 2015.
- This completes the cycle of rotating through the 9 Regional Boards that began in 2010.
- A new solicitation for 2018 for the North Coast, Lahontan and Colorado River Regional Boards was initiated and was closed on May 2017.

## **The list**

- The Water Boards have assessed 2,619 waterbodies (Fig1a).
- There are 1,069 impaired waterbodies that need a TMDL (Fig 1b).
- The integrated report identified 449 waters presumed to be attaining all uses (Fig 2).
- There are 261 waterbodies in full attainment due to TMDLs or other programs (Fig 2)
- The 1,069 impaired waterbodies represent 4,242 waterbody-pollutant combinations on the CA impaired waters list (Table 1).
- EPA only considers the 2,802 waterbody-pollutant combinations without a TMDL to be on the 303(d) list (Table 1).
- Reviewed all the waterbody-pollutant combinations that were removed from the list due to improved water quality or the presence of a TMDL or other program that is expected to improve water quality.

## **Issues**

### ***Issue 1: Three lawsuits brought against the State Board***

- Earth Law Center, along with the Los Angeles Waterkeeper and San Diego Coastkeeper argue that the State Board violated the Clean Water Act by failing to determine that numerous waterways are “hydrologically impaired” due to man-made structures and alterations, including dams and surface water appropriations.
- The Santa Barbara Channelkeeper argues that the State Board inappropriately removed impairments associated with excessive water diversions and over-pumping in Ventura River Reaches 3 and 4, where TMDLs were completed.
- Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations, Institute for Fisheries Resources, North Coast Rivers Alliance, and San Francisco Crab Boat Owners Association (collectively, Fishermen), challenged the State Board’s decision not to list numerous sections of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta as impaired for temperature, pyrethroids and failure to list against the doubling goal.

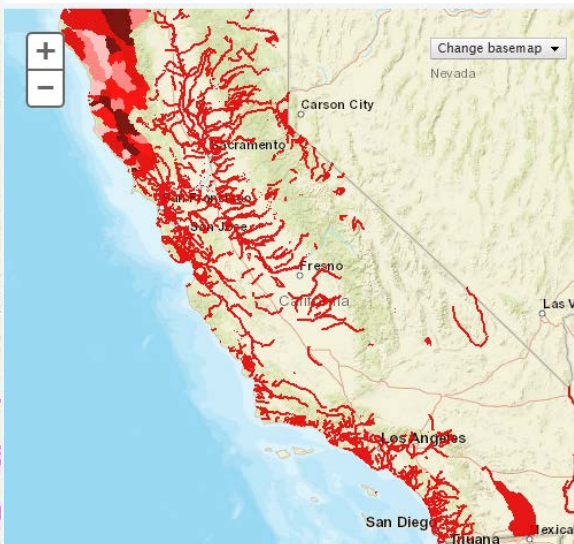
### ***Issue 2: Ocean Acidification FOIA***

- In November 2017, we received a FOIA from Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) on items related to ocean acidification and our review of California’s 303(d) list. We closed the FOIA as we had not received the 303(d) list. CDB has been litigious in EPA Region 10.

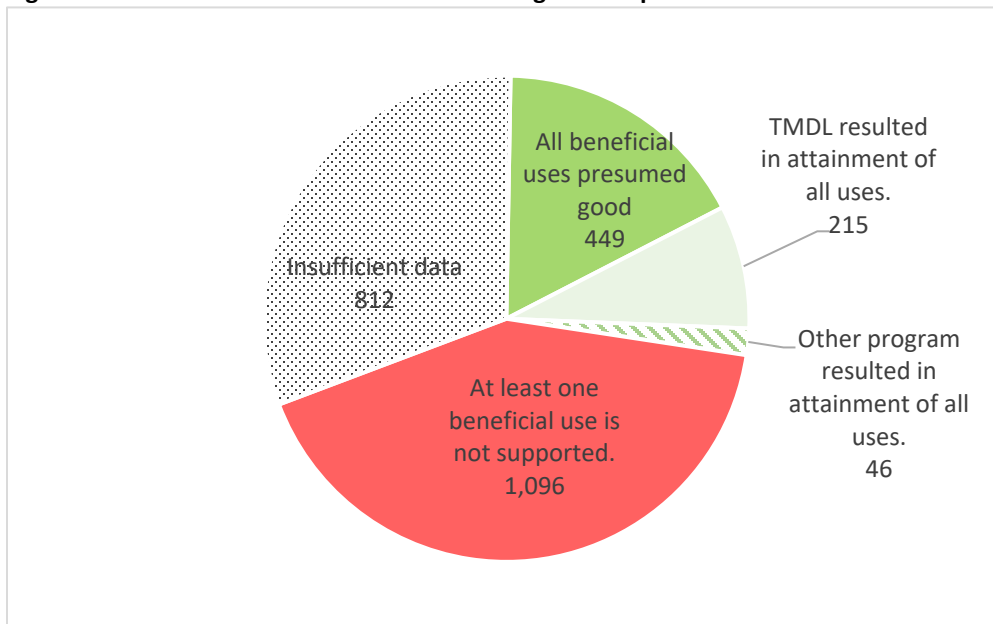
**Fig 1a. Assessed Waterbodies (n=2,618)**



**Fig 1b. Impaired Waterbodies (n=1,069)**



**Fig 2. Status of Waterbodies in the 2014-16 Integrated Report**



Note: California keeps waterbodies with TMDLs or other programs on their 303d list until the water is no longer impaired. EPA guidance does not consider waterbodies with TMDLs or other programs to achieve water quality as part of the 303d list.

**Table 1. Number of water-body pollutant impairments California Impaired Waters List and 303(d) List**

Status of waterbody-pollutant combinations	State Impaired Waters List	303(d) List
Needs TMDL to resolve impairment	2802	2802
Has TMDL to resolve impairment	1274	
Has other program to resolve impairment	166	
<b>Total Water Body – Pollutant Combinations</b>	<b>4242</b>	

**Table A1. Number of new impairments in 2014-16 list (waterbody-pollutant combinations)**

<b>Pollutant Class</b>	<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>Central Coast</b>	<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>Central Valley</b>	<b>Santa Ana</b>	<b>San Diego</b>	<b>Pollutant Totals</b>
Pesticides	2	65	36	83	7	32	<b>225</b>
Bacteria	10	61	14	27	5	65	<b>182</b>
Nutrient-related		54	21	46	1	55	<b>177</b>
Toxicity	3	29	13	41	9	15	<b>110</b>
Metals	9	14	11	48	1	24	<b>107</b>
Benthic Community Effects		5	5		5	28	<b>43</b>
Trash			11			19	<b>30</b>
Misc.		47	17	28	1	7	<b>100</b>
<b>Totals by Regional Board</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>974*</b>

\*Includes 113 combinations with existing TMDLs and 54 combinations with other programs designed to achieve water quality.

**Table A2. Number of new de-listings in 2014-2016 (waterbody-pollutant combinations)**

<b>Pollutant Class</b>	<b>San Francisco</b>	<b>Central Coast</b>	<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>Central Valley</b>	<b>Santa Ana</b>	<b>San Diego</b>	<b>Pollutant Totals</b>
Bacteria	7	11	19	4	9	5	<b>55</b>
Pesticides		14	5	24	4	1	<b>48</b>
Metals		3	19	12	2	3	<b>39</b>
Nutrient-related		10	11	2		4	<b>27</b>
Misc		9	8	3		2	<b>22</b>
<b>Totals by Regional Board</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>191*</b>

\*Includes 142 combinations with existing TMDL and 48 combinations with other programs designed to achieve water quality

**Table A3. California Impaired Waters (2010 vs 2016)**

<b>Status of waterbody-pollutant combinations</b>	<b>2010 (statewide)</b>	<b>2016 (statewide)</b>
Needs TMDL to resolve impairment - 303(d) list	<b>2808</b>	<b>2802</b>
Has an existing TMDL to resolve impairment	627	1274
Has other program to resolve impairment	32	166
<b>Total Water Body – Pollutant Combinations</b>	<b>3467</b>	<b>4242</b>